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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty- seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 52nd, 53rd and 56th meetings, on 19 and 20 May and 4 June 2003. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/57/SR.52, 53 and 56).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the budget of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/57/682);

(b) Reports of the Secretary-General on the budget of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/57/683 and Add.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 and budget for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/57/723);

(d) Progress report of the Secretary-General on the status of the airfield services contract for the Mission (A/57/756);

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(e) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/57/772 and Add.10).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.75

4. At the 56th meeting, on 4 June 2003, the representative of Ireland, coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (A/C.5/57/L.75).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.75 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999 and 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999 regarding, respectively, the deployment to the region of military liaison personnel and the establishment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1417 (2002) of 14 June 2002,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1445 (2002) of 4 December 2002, by which the Council endorsed the new concept of operation and authorized the expansion of the Mission,

Recalling further its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000, as well as subsequent resolutions on the financing of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 56/252 C of 27 June 2002,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

[1] A/57/682, A/57/683 and Add.1 and A/57/723.
[2] A/57/772 and Add.10.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 31 March 2003, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 211.9 million United States dollars, representing some 17 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only twenty-six Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

3. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Takes note* of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the status of the airfield services contract for the Mission,[3] and looks forward to the further review of the subject by the Board of Auditors;

9. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of its resolutions 55/232 of 23 December 2000 and 55/247 of 12 April 2001;

10. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994 and decision 49/478 A of 31 March 1995;

11. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to submit a proposed revised budget for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004, reflecting the developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and further decisions of the Security Council, to the General Assembly at the main part of its fifty-eighth session;[4]

[3] A/57/756.

[4] See A/C.5/57/SR.52.

12. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[5] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation, with the understanding that the Secretary-General should have adequate resources to address the changing situation on the ground, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with maximum efficiency and economy, particularly with regard to air transport;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002

15. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Mission for the period from July 2001 to 30 June 2002;[6]

16. *Decides* to offset the amount of 41 million dollars, which had been appropriated but not apportioned during the financial period ended 30 June 2001 against the unencumbered balance of 61,173,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2002;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004

17. *Also decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo the amount of 608,228,150 dollars for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004, inclusive of 582 million dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 20,083,850 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 6,144,300 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base, pending the submission of the proposed revised budget to the General Assembly;

Financing of the appropriation

18. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 608,228,150 dollars at a monthly rate of 50,685,679 dollars, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolutions 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and 57/290 of 20 December 2002, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2003, as set out in its resolutions 55/5 B of 23 December 2000 and 57/4 B of 20 December 2002, and for the year 2004,[7] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission, pending the submission of the proposed revised budget to the General Assembly;

19. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share

[5] A/57/772/Add.10.

[6] A/57/682.

[7] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

in the Tax Equalization Fund of 14,599,236 dollars at a monthly rate of 1,216,603 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 9,710,736 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 4,525,200 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account, and the prorated share of 363,300 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

20. *Further decides* that for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share of the remaining unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 43,158,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2002, in accordance with the levels set out in resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/236, and resolution 57/290 and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in its resolutions 55/5 B and 57/4 B;

21. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their share of the remaining unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 43,158,000 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2002, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 20 above;

22. *Also decides* that the decrease of 448,600 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2002 shall be set off against the credits from the amount referred to in paragraphs 20 and 21 above;

23. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

24. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

25. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".